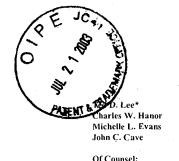
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number P-7988 Attorney Docket No. UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION Karl J. Gramling First Inventor Gutter Retaining System TRANSMITTAL Title Express Mail Label No. (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)) Assistant Commissioner for Patents **APPLICATION ELEMENTS** ADDRESS TO: **Box Patent Application** Washington, DC 20231 See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents. CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing) Computer Program (Appendix) Applicant claims small entity status. 8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) See 37 CFR 1.27. opecification [Total Pages (preferred arrangement set forth below) Computer Readable Form (CRF) - Descriptive title of the invention Specification Sequence Listing on: - Cross Reference to Related Applications CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix Statements verifying identity of above copies - Background of the Invention Brief Summary of the Invention ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) - Detailed Description Power of - Claim(s) 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement 10. - Abstract of the Disclosure (when there is an assignee) Attorney English Translation Document (if applicable) 11. Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 4. Copies of IDS Information Disclosure 12. Citations 6 5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Preliminary Amendment The listed item(s) Newly executed (original or copy) Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed) 13. Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) 14. 🗸 (Should be specifically itemized) h. PTO did Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed) **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)** 15. Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 16. (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). or its equivalent. not Application Data Sheet.S ee 37 CFR 1.76 Other: 17. 18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment receive or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76: Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: Divisional Continuation Group Art Unit: Prior application information. For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference the The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts. 19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS following Correspondence address below Customer Number or Bar Code Label Name Address Zip Code State City Fax Telephone Country 44,673 Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) Michelle L. Evans Name (Print/Type)

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

Signature



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Houston, Texas, Office (713) 680-1447

C. Donald Gunn (1936-1999)

Our Ref: P-7988

Kenneth A. Keeling

James E. Hudson $\widetilde{\Pi}I^{\dagger}$

July 16, 2003

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application entitled "Gutter Retaining System"

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the following items for filing on the above referenced patent application:

- 1. Utility Patent Application Transmittal;
- 2. Fee Transmittal for FY 2003;
- 3. Patent Application Fee Determination Record;
- 4. Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney (6 pages);
- 5. Information Disclosure Statement with Cited Reference;
- 6. Patent Application (17 pages) with Drawings (3 pages);
- 7. Certificate of Mailing; and
- 8. Filing fee in the amount of \$375.

Please stamp the enclosed acknowledgment card with the date of receipt and return to my office.

Sincerely,

Michelle L. Evans

Lhu A Grav

Enclosures

cc: Karl J. Gramling

MLE/ks

G:\TDL\Gramling, Karl\P-7988\App Cover Ltr.doc

PTO/SB/06 (05-03)
Approved for use through 4/30/2003. OMB 0651-0032
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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875 Application or Docket Number P-7988						mber					
CLAIMS AS FILED – PART I (Column 1) (Column 2)					4. **	SMALL I	ENTITY	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY		
FOR NUMBER FILED			NUMBE	NUMBER EXTRA		RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE	
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))								\$.375.00	OR	200 miles	\$
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c)) 10 minus 20 = -10			0	Ì	X \$ =	0.00	OR	X \$_ =			
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS				x \$=	0.00	OR	× \$=				
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(d)) ()			0		+ \$=	0.00	OR	+ \$=	,		
If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.				•	TOTAL	\$375.00	OR	TOTAL			
	Cl	_AIMS AS	AMENDED	- PART II							
		(Column 1	`	(Column 2)	(Column 3)		SMALL I	ENTITY	OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
ENT A		CLAIMS REMAINII AFTER AMENDME	NG	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATĘ	ADDI- TIONAL FEE	,	RATE	ADDI- TIONAL FEE
DM	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	=		x \$=		OR	x \$=	
AMENDMENT	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	=		x \$=		OR	x \$=	
AN	FIRST PRESENT	ATION OF MU	LTIPLE DEPEND	ENT CLAM (37 CF	R 1.16(d))		+ \$=		OR	+ \$ =	
		.,,				_	TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE	
		(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)						
AMENDMENT B		CLAIMS REMAININ AFTER AMENDME	IG .	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDI- TIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDI- TIONAL FEE
DMI	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))		Minus	**	=		x \$=		OR	× \$=	
4EN	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))		Minus		=		x \$=		OR	× \$=	
A	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAM (37 CFR 1.16(d))			R 1.16(d))		+ \$=		OR	+ \$=		
	,				_	TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE		
		(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)	_			_		
ENT C		CLAIMS REMAININ AFTER AMENDME	IG	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDI- TIONAL FEE		RATE	ADDI- TIONAL FEE
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))		Minus	**	=		x \$=		OR	× \$=	
AMENDM	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	=		x s=		OR	=	
A	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAM (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+ \$=		OR	+ \$=		
						TOTAL ADD'L FEE		OR	TOTAL ADD'L FEE		
* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3, " If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20". " If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".											

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or fetain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PTO/SB/17 (05-03) Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0032 Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

F	EE TR	AN	SMIT	ΓAL
	for	FY	2003	٠

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 (\$) 375.00 OTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

Complet if Known							
Application Number							
Filing Date							
First Named Inventor	Karl J. Gramling						
Examiner Name							
Art Unit							
Attorney Docket No.	P-7988						

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)	FEE CALCULATION (continued)					
✓ Check Credit card Money Other None	3. ADDITIONAL FEES					
Deposit Account:	Large E	ntity	Small	Entity	,	
Deposit Account.	Fee Code			Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Con Daid
Account	1051	130	2051		Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	Fee Paid
Number Deposit	1052	50	2052		Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or	,
Account Name					cover sheet	
The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)	1053	130	1053		Non-English specification	
Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments	1812		1812		For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application	1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.	1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
FEE CALCULATION	1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1. BASIC FILING FEE	1252	410	2252	205	Extension for reply within second month	
Large Entity Small Entity	1253	930	2253	465	Extension for reply within third month	<u> </u>
Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Fee Paid Code (\$) Code (\$)	1254	1,450	2254	725	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1001 750 2001 275 Utility filing for	1255	1,970	2255	985	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1002 330 2002 165 Design filing fee 375.00	1401	320	2401	160	Notice of Appeal	
1003 520 2003 260 Plant filing fee	1402	320	2402	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1004 750 2004 375 Reissue filing fee	1403	280	2403	140	Request for oral hearing	
1005 160 2005 80 Provisional filing fee	1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 375.00	1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
	1453	1,300	2453	650	Petition to revive - unintentional	
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE	1501	1,300	2501	650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
Extra Claims below Fee Paid	1502	470	2502	235	Design issue fee	
Total Claims 10 20** = -10 x = -0.00	1503	630	2503	315	Planti ssue fee	
Claims Li - 3^ = LU X L - 1 = UU V	1460	130	· 1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
Multiple Dependent =0.0	1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description	1806	180	1806		Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
Code (\$) Code (\$)	8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	} },
1202 18 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20	1809	750	2809	375	Filing a submission after final rejection	 .
1201 84 2201 42 Independent claims in excess of 3				• • •	(37 ČFR 1.129(a))	
1203 280 2203 140 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	1810	750	2810	375	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	{
1204 84 2204 42 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent	1801	750	2801	375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20	1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination	[
and over original patent					of a design application	
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0.00		fee (sp		-::-	To Dail	
**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above	*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 0.00					L
SUBMITTED BY					(Complete (if applicable)	

Registration No. 44,673 Telephone 210-886-9500 Name (Print/Type) Signature

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450," as follows:

37 CFR 1.8(a)	37 CFR 1.10
With sufficient postage as First Class Mail.	[] As "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No.
Date: July 17, 2003	Date:, 2003

Documents Enclosed:

- 1. Utility Patent Application Transmittal;
- 2. Fee Transmittal for FY 2003;
- 3. Patent Application Fee Determination Record;
- 4. Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney (6 pages);
- 5. Information Disclosure Statement with Cited Reference;
- 6. Patent Application (17 pages) with Drawings (3 pages);
- 7. Acknowledgment Postcard; and
- 8. Filing fee in the amount of \$375.

Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee